

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Kevin Kerstein
Publicity Manager
Churchill Downs Racetrack
(610) 420-6971 (mobile)
(502) 635-4712 (office)
Kevin.Kerstein@KyDerby.com

GRADE I WINNER GIFT BOX CLASHES WITH 11 RIVALS INCLUDING SEEKING THE SOUL, YOSHIDA IN SATURDAY NIGHT'S \$600,000 STEPHEN FOSTER

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Wednesday, June 12, 2019) – Hronis Racing LLC's Santa Anita Handicap (Grade I) winner **Gift Box** will invade from the West Coast to take on Charles Fipke's 2017 Clark Handicap (GI) hero **Seeking the Soul** and China Horse Club International, WinStar Farm and Head of Plains Partners' multiple Grade I-winner **Yoshida (JPN)** in Saturday night's 38th running of the \$600,000 Stephen Foster Presented by GE Appliances (GI) – the centerpiece of an action-packed, prime-time program at Churchill Downs billed as "Downs After Dark Presented by Budweiser."

The 1 1/8-mile Stephen Foster is the richest of six graded stakes races on Saturday's special 11-race night racing card that begins at 6 p.m. (all times Eastern). Total purses on the evening are more than \$1.8 million, which makes it the most lucrative racing day for horsemen at Churchill Downs outside of the Kentucky Derby and Kentucky Oaks programs.

Other stakes events scheduled on the night are the \$250,000 Fleur de Lis Presented by Budweiser (GII) for fillies and mares at 1 1/8 miles headlined by La Troienne (GI) winner **She's a Julie** along with multiple Grade I-winners **Elate** and **Blue Prize (ARG)**; the \$250,000 Wise Dan (GII) for 3-year-olds and up at 1 1/16 miles on turf with an over-subscribed field of 15 horses including seven-time Grade II winner **Itsinthepost (FR)**; the \$125,000 Matt Winn (GIII) for 3-year-olds at 1 1/16 miles featuring Pat Day Mile (GIII) hero **Mr. Money**; a well-matched cast of 11 3-year-old fillies in the \$125,000 Regret (GIII) at 1 1/8 miles on grass; and the \$100,000 President of the UAE Cup Sponsored by the UAE Ministry of Presidential Affairs (GI) for Arabian 4-year-olds and up at 1 1/16 miles.

The Stephen Foster has been carded as Race 8 at 9:47 p.m. **NBCSN** will televise the race from 8:30-10 p.m. as part of its 2019 "Breeders' Cup Challenge Series: Win and You're In presented by America's Best Racing" television schedule. Also, **Horse Racing Radio Network (HRRN)** will air live coverage on **SiriusXM 156** from 8-10 p.m. and **TVG** will provide live on-site updates throughout the evening.

After the third race winner's circle presentation is complete, there will be a special ceremony in the Woodford Reserve Winner's Circle for Kentucky Derby (GI) winner **Country House**'s connections – owners **Mrs. J. V. Shields Jr., E.J.M. McFadden Jr.** and **LNJ Foxwoods** and trainer **Bill Mott** – to receive their engraved Kentucky Derby 145 trophies. Jockey **Flavien Prat** has commitments to ride at Santa Anita and will not make the evening's presentation.

All guests Saturday will be able to take pictures with the engraved Kentucky Derby trophies beforehand as they'll be on display just inside the Paddock Gate from 5-6:30 p.m.

Combined, the Stephen Foster field has won 60 of their 184 starts (32.6%), including 25 stakes events, and earned more than \$11.4 million.

Gift Box (16-5-6-2—\$979,160), who won the \$600,000 Santa Anita Handicap by a scant nose over **McKinzie** on April 6, arrived at Churchill Downs on Tuesday for trainer **John Sadler** to begin preparing for Saturday's Stephen Foster. The 6-year-old son of Tapit was transferred to Sadler's care in mid-2018 from trainer **Chad Brown**. Since Sadler began training **Gift Box**, he's reeled off a half-length score in the \$300,000 San Antonio (GII) on Dec. 26 and, most recently, finished second to **Vino Rosso** in the \$500,000 Gold Cup at Santa Anita (GI) on May 27.

Recent Belmont Stakes (GI)-winning jockey **Joel Rosario** is scheduled to fly into Kentucky to ride **Gift Box**, who drew post No. 6 in the field of 12 older horses. Rosario has been the regular rider of **Gift Box** since he was transferred to Sadler's care.

Morning line odds maker **Mike Battaglia** has installed **Gift Box** as the 3-1 morning line favorite.

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Among Gift Box's chief rivals is two-time grade I-winner Yoshida (14-5-3-0—\$2,179,770). The 5-year-old son of Heart's Cry won the 2018 Old Forester Turf Classic (GI) over the Matt Winn Turf Course prior to switching to the dirt and winning the Woodward (GI) at Saratoga. Yoshida enters the Stephen Foster after finishing sixth in the \$12 million Dubai World Cup (GI) in late March.

"Before we ran him in the Woodward, he never had a start on the dirt but always trained well over it," Mott said. "He really showed us that day that he can run over it in the afternoon as well. It's great to have options with him and knowing he's won Grade I races on both surfaces doesn't hurt either."

Mott, who ranks No. 2 behind **Dale Romans** in the all-time trainer standings at Churchill Downs with 713 wins, previously won the Stephen Foster in 2012 with **Ron the Greek**.

Jose Ortiz, who rode **Tacitus** to a second-place finish in last week's Belmont Stakes for Mott, is scheduled to ride Yoshida in the Stephen Foster from post 12 at morning line odds of 7-2.

Charles Fipke's 2017 Clark Handicap (GI) winner Seeking the Soul (26-6-6-7—\$2,989,842) will attempt to avenge his Alysheba third-place finish behind McKinzie and **Tom's d'Etat** in the Stephen Foster. Trained by **Dallas Stewart**, Seeking the Soul began his 2019 campaign with a runner-up finish behind **City of Light** in the \$9 million Pegasus World Cup (GI) prior to finishing eighth in the Dubai World Cup.

"He's really been bouncing around perfectly over this track," Stewart said. "He was doing so well after the Dubai World Cup that we ran him in the Alysheba as a prep for the Stephen Foster. He ran good that day but I think he can do much better in the Foster."

Hall of Fame jockey **John Velazquez** will, once again, unite with Seeking the Soul from post 4 at morning line odds of 4-1.

G M B Racing's Alysheba runner-up Tom's d'Etat (11-6-2-0—\$606,092) could be a pace-presence in the Stephen Foster for trainer **Al Stall Jr.** and jockey **Shaun Bridgmohan**.

"Looking at the race I'd expect him to be on the lead or close to the pace," Bridgmohan said. "(Alkhaatam) has some speed but we can be right there with him early. I don't expect the pace to be too quick, though."

Tom's d'Etat drew post 9 and is 5-1 on the morning line.

WinStar Farm, China Horse Club International and **SF Racing**'s Oaklawn Handicap (GII) winner **Quip** (8-4-1-1—\$942,500) will attempt to give jockey **Florent Geroux** his second Stephen Foster victory in the last three years. Trained by **Rodolphe Brisset**, Quip was on the Triple Crown trail as a 3-year-old after winning the Tampa Bay Derby (GII). Following his enigmatic eighth-place effort in the Preakness, the connections opted to give the son of Distorted Humor time off from the races.

"I think it was the best thing that could have happened to him, getting time off," Brisset said. "He came back so much stronger and mature. I think he can really make a name for himself in the older horse division this year."

Quip began his 2019 campaign with a third-place effort in the Hal's Hope (GIII) prior to his Oaklawn Handicap score. Geroux, who won the 2017 Stephen Foster aboard Gun Runner, has the call from post 10 at odds of 10-1.

Winchell Thoroughbreds' Tenfold (10-4-0-1—\$895,890) entered the Stephen Foster after what Hall of Fame trainer **Steve Asmussen** described as a "breakthrough performance" after he won the \$300,000 Pimlico Special (GIII) on May 17.

"We always knew he had the talent and he really fought hard to win the (Pimlico Special)," Asmussen said. "He's been one of those horses that always trained well and we knew he could put it together in his races but never quite got there. It was very satisfying when he crossed the wire in front in the Pimlico Special."

Asmussen's go-to rider **Ricardo Santana Jr.** has the call on Tenfold and will break from post 7 at odds of 12-1.

Tom Conway's King Zachary (10-3-0-3—\$303,650), who was transferred to trainer **Graham Motion**'s barn as a 4-year-old, drew post 8 and will be ridden by **Javier Castellano** at morning line odds of 12-1. King Zachary won last year's Matt Winn (GIII) as a 3-year-old.

Owner/trainer **Wes Hawley** entered former \$50,000 claim **Thirstforlife** (22-7-4-3—\$393,170) in the Stephen Foster following his narrow victory over **American Anthem** and fellow Stephen Foster entrant King Zachary in a conditioned allowance race on Derby Day.

"He really impressed me on Derby Day," Hawley said. "He beat some good horses in that race including American Anthem and King Zachary. If he can run back to that race, with the way he's been working throughout the month of May and into June, we have a shot at the Foster."

Miguel Mena rides Thirstforlife, who drew the rail at odds of 15-1.

Joe Peacock's Sunland Park Handicap winner **Runaway Ghost** (11-7-2-0—\$744,224) will invade from New Mexico for the Stephen Foster. Trained by **Todd Fincher**, Runaway Ghost cruised to a 2 3/4-length score in last year's Sunland Park Derby (GIII) but a minor injury did not allow the son of Ghostzapper to compete in the Kentucky Derby.

Julien Leparoux has the riding assignment on Runaway Ghost from post 3 at odds of 20-1.

Shadwell Stable's impressive allowance winner **Alkhaatam** (5-2-0-2—\$133,848) will test stakes company for the first time in the Stephen Foster for locally-based horseman **Danny Peitz**. The son of Tapit broke his maiden at Oaklawn prior to his easy 3 1/4-length win in a first-level allowance race on May 12 at Churchill Downs.

"Eventually we knew we'd end up in stakes company and the Foster was a good spot to try it for the first time since it's in our backyard," Peitz said. "He keeps improving in every start and who knows how good he could be."

Channing Hill will team up with Alkhaatam from post 5 and is slated at morning line odds of 30-1.

Crystal Racing Enterprises and **Contreras Stable**'s Essex Handicap winner **Rated R Superstar** (34-6-5-6—\$784,517) (jockey **Rodney Prescott**, trainer **Cipriano Contreras**, 20-1) and **Michael Hui**'s Oaklawn Mile victor **Exulting** (17-5-2-2—\$458,292) (**Tyler Gaffalione**, **Mike Maker**, 20-1) round out the field.

The complete field for the Stephen Foster (with jockey, trainer and morning line odds) Thirstforlife (Mena, Hawley, 15-1); Rated R Superstar (Prescott, Contreras, 20-1); Runaway Ghost (Leparoux, Peacock, 20-1); Seeking the Soul (Velazquez, Stewart, 4-1); Alkhaatam (Hill, Peitz, 30-1); Gift Box (Rosario, Sadler, 3-1); Tenfold (Santana, Asmussen, 12-1); King Zachary (Castellano, Motion, 12-1); Tom's d'Etat (Bridgmohan, Stall, 5-1); Quip (Geroux, Brisset, 10-1); Exulting (Gaffalione, Maker, 20-1); and Yoshida (JPN) (Ortiz, Mott, 7-2).

All horses will tote 121 pounds with the exception of Gift Box who will carry 125 lbs. and Quip who will carry 123 lbs.

The Stephen Foster has had a strong influence on the Breeders' Cup Classic and Horse of the Year honors. Four horses used victories in the Stephen Foster as part of their résumés in Horse of the Year campaigns: **Black Tie Affair** (1991), **Saint Liam** (2005), **Curlin** (2008) and **Gun Runner** (2017). In addition, two runner-ups were crowned Horse of the Year: **Mineshaft** (2003) and **Wise Dan** (2012). Also, **Awesome Again** (1998) and **Blame** (2010) completed same-year Foster-Classic doubles. Fort Larned won the Classic in 2012, and won the Foster the following year prior to a fourth-place run in his bid for a second Classic win.

Champion **Victory Gallop** owns the stakes and track record for 1 1/8 miles of 1:47.28, which was established in 1999.

Churchill Downs will bring Bourbon Street to Louisville with the evening's theme of "**The Big Easy**." Guests are encouraged to wear New Orleans-inspired purple, green or gold.

The Dirty Dozen Brass Band will be the crown jewel of this year's Spring Meet entertainment when they headline Saturday's Downs After Dark with a performance on the Plaza Stage from 8:30-11:30 p.m. The New Orleans-based Dirty Dozen Brass Band is a world famous music machine whose name is synonymous with genre-bending romps and high-octane performances. The band has taken the traditional foundation of brass band music and incorporated it into a blend of genres including Bebop Jazz, Funk, R&B and Soul to create a unique sound they describe as a "musical gumbo."

Entertainment will also include a high-swinging, hard-blowing vintage jazz and pop performance by local four-beat band the **West Market Stompers** (6-8 p.m.), a Second Line Parade and Bourbon Street-themed cocktails and street performers.

General admission to Churchill Downs is \$12 on Saturday with a first post of 6 p.m. and gates at 5 p.m. Box seats are \$27 and reserved dining packages are \$69. All ticket options can be purchased online at www.ChurchillDowns.com/Tickets.

The final race of the night is scheduled for 11:16 p.m.

According to the **National Weather Service**, Saturday's forecast for Louisville calls for partly sunny skies with a high near 85 and a low around 71.

LA TROIENNE WINNER SHE'S A JULIE CLASHES WITH MULTIPLE GRADE I-WINNER ELATE IN SATURDAY'S GRADE II, \$250,000 FLEUR DE LIS

Bradley Thoroughbreds, Whispering Oaks Farm, Team Hanley, Madaket Stables and Tim and Anna Cambron's La Troienne (Grade I) winner **She's a Julie** will clash with **Claiborne Farm** and **Adele Dilschneider's** two-time Grade I-winning mare **Elate** in Saturday's 44th running of the \$250,000 Fleur de Lis Presented by Budweiser (GI) at Churchill Downs.

For the fifth year in a row, the 1 1/8-mile Fleur de Lis is a **Breeders' Cup Challenge Series "Win and You're In"** stakes event, which means the winner will be guaranteed a berth in the \$2 million Longines Breeders' Cup Distaff (GI) on Nov. 2.

The Fleur de Lis – which means "Flower of the Lily" and honors the French symbol that is incorporated into the city of Louisville's Flag – will be run as Race 7 at 9:12 p.m. (all times Eastern). It will be televised live on **NBCSN** from 8:30-10 p.m.

She's a Julie, trained by Hall of Fame conditioner **Steve Asmussen**, won her first Grade I in the La Troienne on Kentucky Oaks Day at Churchill Downs. The classy filly by Elusive Quality has only one off-the-board finish in her last eight starts – a fourth-place effort in the Zia Park Oaks in November.

"I was so proud of her effort in the La Troienne," Asmussen said. "It was a lot of fun winning that race with such a special filly to our barn and named after my wife."

She's a Julie (13-6-2-1—\$878,130) will be ridden by **Ricardo Santana Jr.** from post No. 2.

Chief among the competition to She's a Julie in the Fleur de Lis will be five-time winner Elate. The 5-year-old mare by Medaglia d'Oro most recently finished third in the Apple Blossom (GI) and second in the Azeri (GII) at Oaklawn Park. Elate had a spectacular 3-year-old campaign with victories in the Alabama (GI) and Beldame (GI). Trained by Hall of Famer **Bill Mott**, Elate began her 4-year-old campaign with a 3 1/4-length score in the 1 1/4-mile Delaware Handicap (GII) and finished a neck behind **Abel Tasman** in the Personal Ensign (GI) before missing the remainder of 2018 with a minor injury to her left foreleg.

"She's a horse that wants every bit of 1 1/8 miles," Mott said. "Part of the reason why we wanted to run in the (Fleur de Lis) was because of the distance. I think she loves 1 1/8 miles and even up to 1 1/4 miles."

Elate will break from post 3 under **Jose Ortiz**.

Also entered is **Merriebelle Stable's** 2018 Fleur de Lis hero **Blue Prize (ARG)** (18-7-7-2—\$1,112,753). Trained by **Ignacio Correas IV**, Blue Prize returned for her 6-year-old campaign with a third-place finish La Troienne following a fourth-place effort in the Longines Breeders' Cup Distaff (GI) at Churchill Downs. Blue Prize won last year's Fleur de Lis by 1 1/2 lengths to give her an automatic berth in the Breeders' Cup Distaff.

Javier Castellano has the call on Blue Prize from post 5.

The Fleur de Lis field from the rail out (with jockey, trainer and morning line odds): **Skeptic** (Brian Hernandez Jr., Rusty Arnold, 10-1); **She's a Julie** (Santana, Asmussen, 2-1); **Elate** (Ortiz, Mott, 8-5); **Go Google Yourself** (Gabriel Saez, Paul McGee, 12-1); **Blue Prize** (ARG) (Castellano, Correas, 2-1); **Auspicious Babe** (Florent Geroux, Dallas Stewart, 15-1).

All horses will tote 120 pounds except **She's a Julie** who will carry 124 lbs.

FOURTEEN WELL-MATCHED GRASS HORSES MEET IN \$250,000 WISE DAN

Red Barron's Barn multiple graded stakes-winning **Itsinthepost** (FR) is set to take on 13 rivals including **Amerman Racing Stables** Dixie Stakes (Grade II) runner-up **Admission Office**, **Marc Detampel**'s Opening Verse winner **Siem Riep** and **Bourbon Lane** Stables' Ben Ali (GIII) hero **Bourbon Resolution** in Saturday's 30th running of the \$250,000 Wise Dan (Grade II) at 1 1/16 miles over Churchill Downs' Matt Winn Turf Course.

Itsinthepost, who has been on a layoff since August, is slated to return to action in the Wise Dan for trainer **Jeff Mullins**. The 7-year-old gelded son of American Post (GB) won the 2018 San Marcos (GII), San Luis Rey (GII) and Charles Whittingham (GII) at Santa Anita. Overall, he's won seven Grade II events.

Jockey **Tyler Baze** has the mount on **Itsinthepost** from post No. 7.

Chief among **Itsinthepost**'s rivals in the Wise Dan is **Admission Office** for trainer **Brian Lynch**. **Admission Office**, who was previously conditioned by **Chad Brown**, closed from nine lengths off the early pace in the Dixie to finish a half-length behind multiple graded stakes winner **Catholic Boy**.

The three-time winner will be ridden by **Joel Rosario** from post 12.

Also entered in the Wise Dan field is **Siem Riep**, who bested a field of nine rivals by 1 1/2 lengths in the Opening Verse on Thurby at Churchill Downs. Trained by **Ben Colebrook**, **Siem Riep** will be ridden by **James Graham** from post 6.

Ben Ali (GIII) winner **Bourbon Resolution** will test the turf for the first time in the Wise Dan for trainer **Ian Wilkes**. The 4-year-old New Year's Day colt has two published workouts over the turf including a five-furlong move in 1:00.20 in June 2 at Churchill Downs.

"I really like his action when we've worked him on the grass," Wilkes said. "He's a horse that I think could run all day. When we first worked him on the grass I could tell he was stretching out better than he had previously done on the dirt."

Wilkes' son-in-law **Chris Landeros** is named to ride from post 14.

The Wise Dan field from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): **Get Western** (Julien Leparoux, Charlie LoPresti); **All Right** (Adam Beschizza, John Ortiz); **First Premio** (Brian Hernandez Jr., Mark Casse); **Hot Springs** (Ricardo Santana Jr., Steve Asmussen); **Holiday Stone** (Florent Geroux, Eddie Kenneally); **Siem Riep** (Graham, Colebrook); **Itsinthepost** (Baze, Mullins); **Noble Commander** (Gabriel Saez, Phil D'Amato); **Inspector Lynley** (Jose Ortiz, Shug McGaughey); **El Picaro (CHI)** (Javier Castellano, Ignacio Correas IV); **March to the Arch** (Tyler Gaffalione, Casse); **Admission Office** (Rosario, Lynch); **Cullum Road** (John Velazquez, Mike Maker); and **Bourbon Resolution** (Landeros, Wilkes). Also Eligible: **Parlor** (Corey Lanerie, Eddie Kenneally).

The Wise Dan will go as Race 6 at 8:37 p.m.

The race formerly known as the Firecracker was renamed in 2016 to honor **Mort Fink**'s two-time Horse of the Year who completed a spectacular racing career with a perfect four-race season in 2014. The **Charlie LoPresti**-trained gelding by Wiseman's Ferry compiled a remarkable lifetime record of 23-2-0 in 31 races with earnings of \$7,552,920 from 2010-14.

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PAT DAY MILE WINNER MR. MONEY TOPS GRADE III, \$125,000 MATT WINN

Allied Racing Stables' Pat Day Mile Presented by LG&E and KU (Grade III) winner **Mr. Money** tops Saturday's \$125,000 Matt Winn for 3-year-olds at 1 1/16 miles at Churchill Downs.

Trained by **Bret Calhoun**, Mr. Money stormed home to a 5 1/4-length score in the Pat Day Mile at odds of 7-1. The son of Goldencents was Calhoun's "original Kentucky Derby horse" but found success cutting back in distance following a fifth-place effort in the Louisiana Derby (GII). Calhoun finished 11th in the Derby with **By My Standards**.

"He was our original Kentucky Derby horse after his 2-year-old year," Calhoun said. "He trained super into the Pat Day Mile and he's doing awesome. He's always done everything the right way when he trains in the morning and shows so much talent every day when he steps on the racetrack."

Mr. Money drew post No. 6 and will be ridden by regular rider **Gabriel Saez**.

Tommie Lewis, Steve Crabtree, Dean Demaree, David Bernsen, Jim Chambers and Magdalena Racing's Signalman will try to revert back to his solid 2-year-old form in the Matt Winn. Trained by **Kenny McPeek**, Signalman finished ninth in the Preakness in his most recent start.

Signalman was originally targeted to the Kentucky Derby and kick started his campaign in November with a narrow victory in the Kentucky Jockey Club (GII). Following a seventh-place effort in the Fountain of Youth (GII) and a third-place finish in the Blue Grass (GII), he seemingly did not have enough points on the "Road to the Kentucky Derby" to make the field of 20 horses. **Brian Hernandez Jr.** will have the riding assignment from post 2.

The Matt Winn field from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): **Limonite** (Ricardo Santana Jr., Steve Asmussen); Signalman (Hernandez, McPeek); **Nolo Contesto** (Joel Rosario, John Sadler); **Knicks Go** (Tyler Gaffalione, Ben Colebrook); **Proverb** (Calvin Borel, Ron Moquett); Mr. Money (Saez, Calhoun); and **Armistice Day** (Corey Lanerie, Tommy Drury).

The Matt Winn, which goes as Race 5 Saturday with a post time of approximately 8:03 p.m. (all times Eastern), was named in honor of the famed Churchill Downs president that served as the driving force in the development of the Downs and his beloved Kentucky Derby.

ELEVEN WELL-MATCHED 3-YEAR-OLD FILLIES MEET IN SATURDAY'S GRADE III, \$125,000 REGRET

Coffeepot Stables and **Phillips Racing's** **Winter Sunset** will try for her first graded stakes score in Saturday's \$125,000 Regret (GIII) at Churchill Downs.

The Regret, for 3-year-old fillies at 1 1/8 miles on the Matt Winn Turf Course, is carded as Race 9 at 10:19 p.m.

Winter Sunset, a gray daughter of Tapit, recently finished third behind **Concrete Rose** and **Newspaperofrecord** in the Edgewood (GIII) on Kentucky Oaks Day. Trained by **Wayne Catalano**, Winter Sunset is out of the seven-time graded-stakes winning mare Winter Memories.

"The pedigree is certainly there," Catalano said. "Her momma was one heck of a race horse a few years ago. (Winter Sunset) is doing great for this race and I couldn't be happier with her training right now. She ran a good race in the Edgewood behind two nice fillies. I think this race will suit her much better and could bring her confidence level up a bit."

Catalano's son-in-law **Channing Hill** has the call from post No. 1.

Also entered in the Regret is **Three Chimneys Farm's** multiple graded-stakes placed **Princesa Carolina** for trainer **Kenny McPeek**. The daughter of Tapit began her 3-year-old campaign with a runner-up effort behind **Cambier Parc** in the Herecomesthebride (GIII) at Gulfstream Park followed by a third-place effort in the Appalachian (GII) at Keeneland.

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Princesa Carolina enters the Regret from a 1 3/4-length win in a first-level allowance race at Keeneland. **Brian Hernandez Jr.** has the return call from post 11.

The Regret field from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): Winter Sunset (Hill, Catalano); **Delta's Kingdom** (John Velazquez, Bill Mott); **Crafty's Dream** (Sonny Leon, Michael Evans II); **Varenka** (Javier Castellano, Graham Motion); **Hard Legacy** (Julien Leparoux, Norm Casse); **Hungry Kitten** (Joel Rosario, Shug McGaughey); **Belle Laura** (Tyler Gaffalione, Norm Casse); **Choate Bridge** (Jose Ortiz, Brendan Walsh); **Fortuante Girl** (Florent Geroux, Mark Casse); **Gamblin Train** (Adam Beschizza, Buff Bradley); and Princesa Carolina (Hernandez, McPeek). All fillies will carry 118 pounds.

QUICK AND RICH, PADDYS DAY LEAD FIELD OF 10 ARABIANS IN SATURDAY'S GRADE I, \$100,000 PRESIDENT OF THE UAE CUP

Tom Fritz' 2017 President of the UAE Cup (Grade I) winner **Quick and Rich** will take on 2016 President of the UAE Cup hero **Paddys Day** in Saturday's \$100,000 President of the United Arab Emirates Cup sponsored by the UAE Ministry of Presidential Affairs (GI) at Churchill Downs.

The 1 1/16-mile event for purebred Arabians 4-year-olds and up is carded as Race 10 with a post time of 10:48 p.m.

Trained by top Arabian-bred conditioner **Lynn Ashby**, Quick and Rich pulled a massive 19-1 upset in the 2017 President of the UAE Cup. The now 9-year-old son of TH Richie most recently was placed first in an allowance event at Delaware Park as the heavy 1-2 favorite.

Churchill Downs' leading rider **Corey Lanerie** has the mount on Quick and Rich from post No. 9

Among the rivals to Quick and Rich in the well-versed field of 10 Arabians is three-time Darley Horse of the Year winner Paddys Day, who will return to action for the first time in 10 months for trainer **Leonie Sessing**. Following Paddys Day's victory in the President of the UAE Cup, the son of Burning Sand won the 2018 Al Maktoum Challenge (GI) at Meydan.

The 24-time winner will be ridden by **Ricardo Santana Jr.** from post 8.

Also entered in the President of the UAE Cup is 14-time winner **Easter Man**. The 7-year-old son of Burning Sand has reeled off three races in a row, including a one-length score in the Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup Amethyst Jewel Stakes (GI) at Sam Houston in March.

Easter Man drew post 9 with East Coast-based rider **Carol Cedeno** scheduled to make the trip to Kentucky for the mount.

The complete field for the President of the UAE Cup (with jockey and trainer): **Madjikman** (Kebar Coa, Fenneka Bentley); **Belfastt** (Jack Gilligan, Bentley); **Uptown Cruisedirector** (Jose Garcia, Ashby); **Mizzdora** (Edgar Morales, Jeremias Castro); Easter Man (Cedeno, Jerenesto Torrez); **RB Texas Hold Em** (Gabriel Saez, Nicole Ruggeri); **Thess Is Awesome** (Adam Beschizza, Ashby); Paddys Day (Santana, Sessing); Quick and Rich (Lanerie, Ashby); and **Risky Red** (Rayan Gazader, Leonie Sessing).

BREEDERS' CUP BETTING CHALLENGE QUALIFIER ON STEPHEN FOSTER NIGHT

Some of the nation's elite horseplayers will descend upon Churchill Downs on Saturday night and attempt to secure seats at the 2019 Breeders' Cup Betting Challenge as they pit their handicapping skills against the best Louisville has to offer.

The Churchill Downs Challenge Handicapping Contest is a "real money" handicapping tournament with a \$1,500 buy-in, of which \$1,000 will be used by participants to wager on Saturday night's Stephen Foster card with the other \$500 going toward the entry fee and prize pool. Wager types permitted are Win, Place, Show, Exacta, Trifecta and Daily Double only.

The top two finishers in the tournament will receive \$10,000 Breeders' Cup Betting Challenge seats for the Nov. 1-2 event plus a \$1,000 travel voucher. The third-place finisher will receive a \$2,500 voucher.

Saturday's prize pool is based on 50 entries. All entry fees will be paid back to prize pool should more than 50 entries participate. Horseplayers can register by emailing **Gary Palmisano** at Gary.Palmisano@KyDerby.com.

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